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Today's People

Watergate Figure Testifies



STURGIS

Former CIA agent and convicted Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis testified yesterday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan that he was arrested without reason when he showed up at the apartment of Marita Lorenz, whom he allegedly once recruited to poison Cuban leader Fidel Castro. Sturgis, 56, testified at a trial on his \$15-million false arrest suit against two police detectives and the city of New York. Sturgis said he spent three days in jail and received death threats because of worldwide publicity of his arrest. He said charges of coercion and aggravated harassment were dropped at his arraignment. The detectives who made the arrest, Matthew Rosenthal and James Rothstein, testified they acted on a complaint made by Lorenz. Rosenthal said Lorenz told him Sturgis was coming to see her to try to prevent her from testifying before a U.S. Senate subcommittee. Rosenthal also said he was told that Sturgis was seeking to have Lorenz recant a published story in which she claimed that she, Sturgis and another CIA agent accompanied Lee Harvey Oswald on an auto trip to Dallas before President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.